

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

# VITAMIN D AND CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE.

WHAT WE KNOW AND WHAT WE DO  
NOT KNOW

**DR AHMED ELDEEP**  
**M.D INTERNAL MEDICINE**

# AGENDA

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- **Vitamin D Physiology**
- **Classical and Non-classical actions of vitamin D**
- **Vitamin D metabolism in CKD**
- **Vitamin D Therapy in CKD**

# Vitamin D Physiology

- **2** Sources.
- **2** Hydroxylation reactions.
- **2** Forms
  - inactive form
  - active form
- **2** Faces (hormone/ Vitamin).
  - Not classic hormone
  - Not true “vitamin”.
- **2** Actions
  - Classical
  - Non classical

# 2 Sources.

## ▣ Foods

- Naturally found in very few foods
- Added to many foods on the market

## ▣ Sunlight

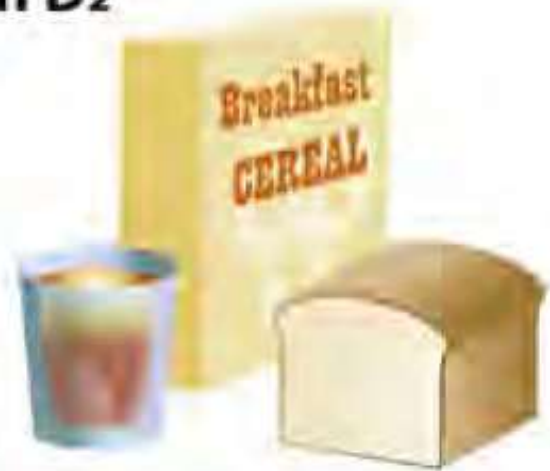


## Vitamin D<sub>3</sub>

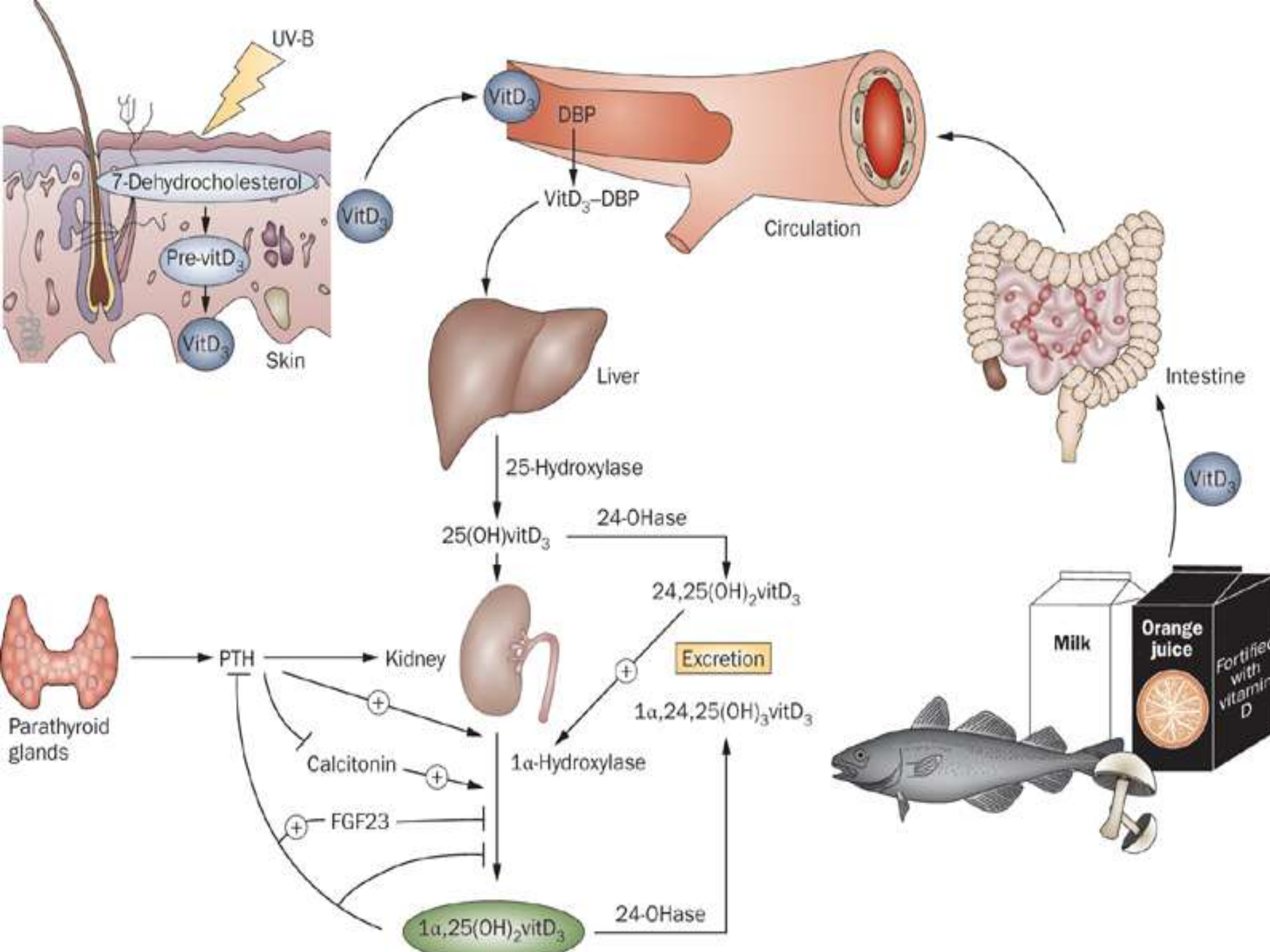


Synthesized in skin and occurs naturally in oily fish and is added to milk.  
Vitamin D<sub>3</sub> (cholecalciferol).

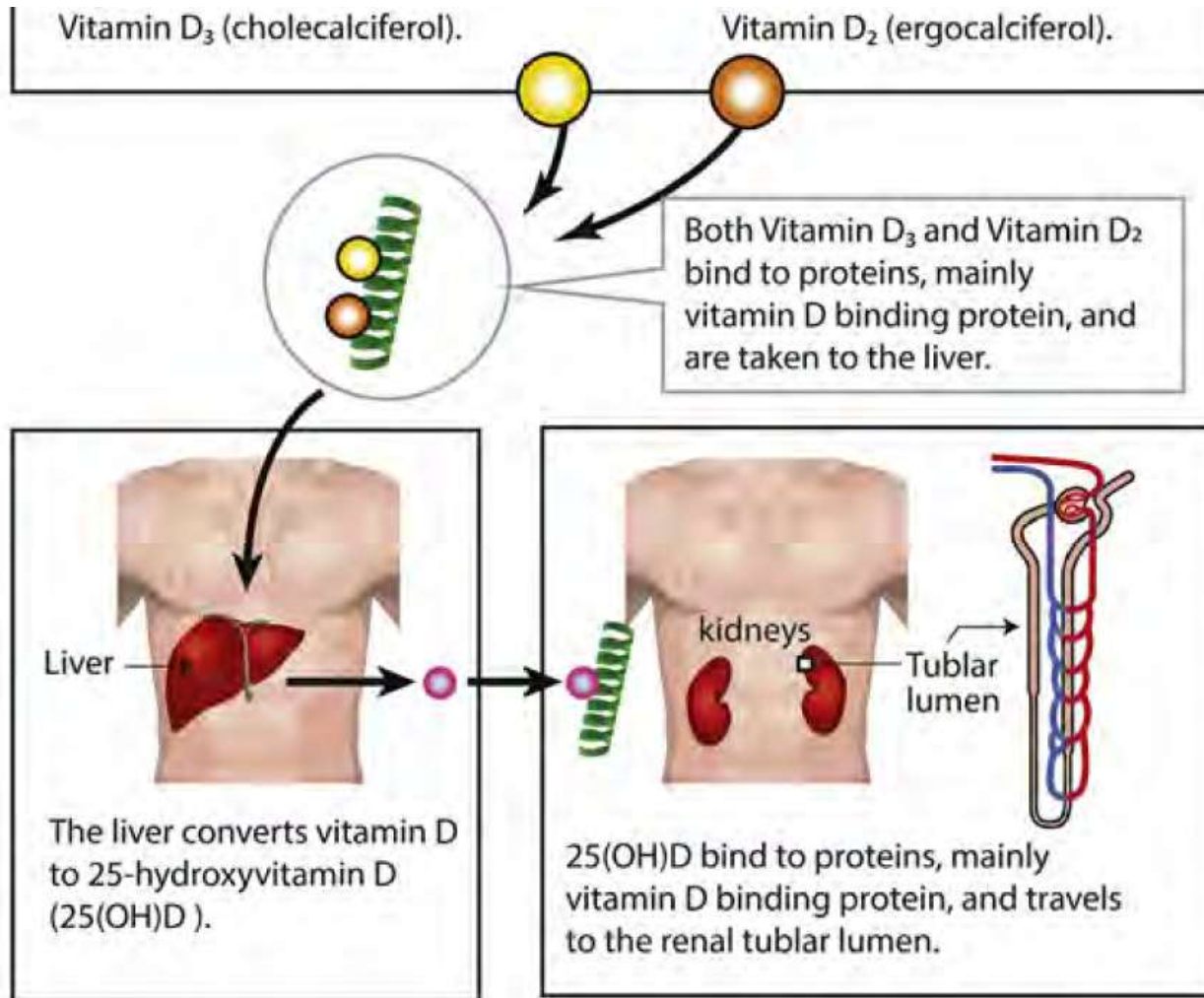
## Vitamin D<sub>2</sub>



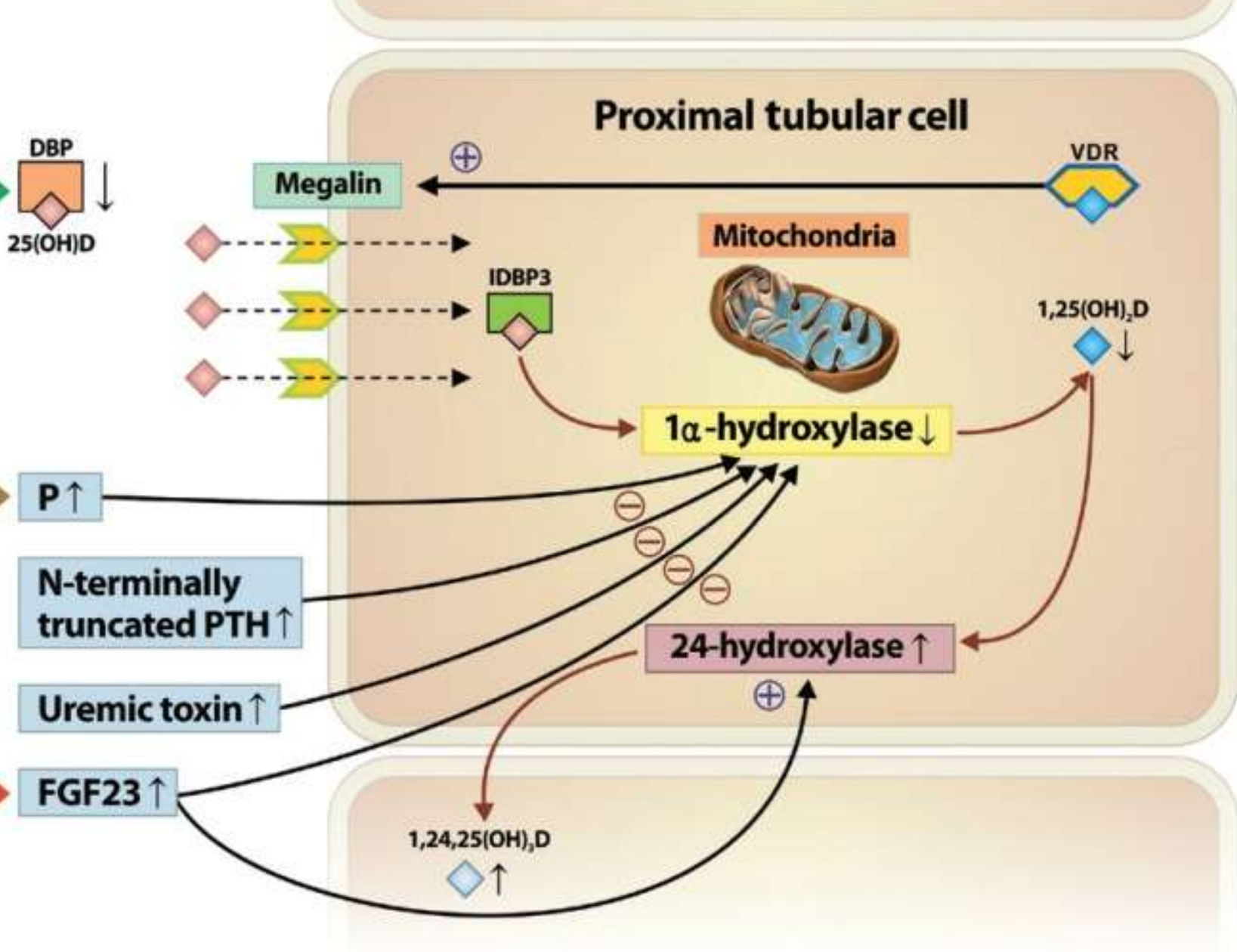
Produced through UV irradiation of yeast ergosterol and added to many foods.  
Vitamin D<sub>2</sub> (ergocalciferol).



# 2 hydroxylation reactions







# 2 Forms

The difference in characteristics of 25-hydroxyvitamin D and 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D.

	Affinity to vitamin D receptor	Serum total concentration	Half-life	Risk of hypercalcemia
25(OH)D	(1)*	9.0–34.0 ng/mL (500)*	480 hrs	Low
1,25(OH) <sub>2</sub> D	(100–200)*	20–60 pg/mL (1)*	15 hrs	High

\* Relative values

## 25(OH)D

Longer halflife

major biomarker of total vitamin D stores

Has a binding capacity, albeit weak, for vitamin D receptors (VDR), considered as an indicator of vitamin D sufficiency.

Has hundred times higher blood concentration than 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D

## 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D

- The biologically active
- Not reflect overall vitamin D status .....
- Very short half-life (hours) because of its lower affinity for DBP.
- Formation is not directly regulated by vitamin D intake or cutaneous synthesis.
- Regulated tightly (1 $\alpha$ -hydroxylase) by

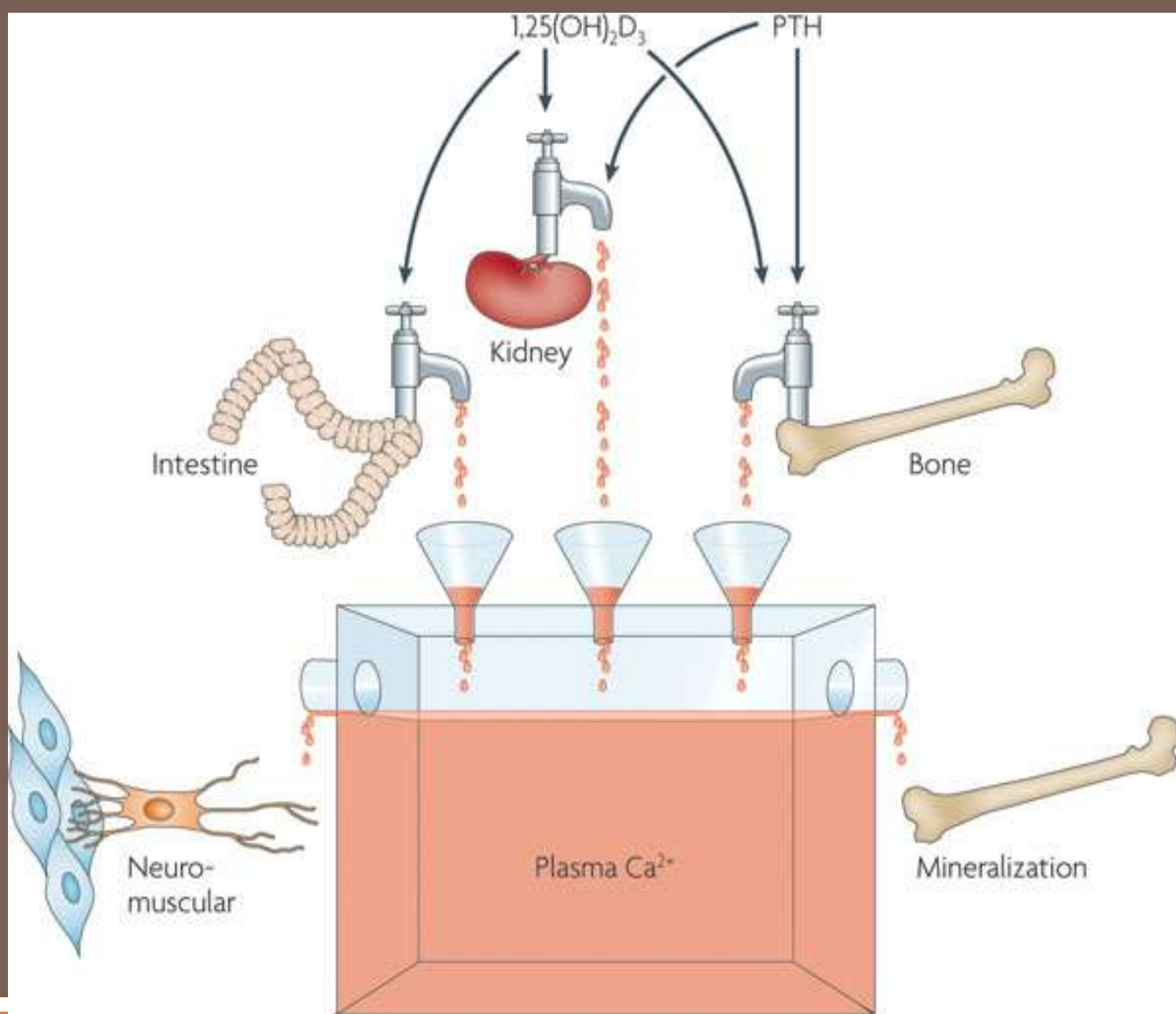
## 2 Faces (hormone/ Vitamin).

- **Not a classic hormone** because it is not produce and secreted by an endocrine “gland.”
- **Not a true “vitamin”** since it can be synthesized *de novo*.
- Vitamin D is a true hormone that acts on distant target cells to evoke responses after binding to high affinity receptors

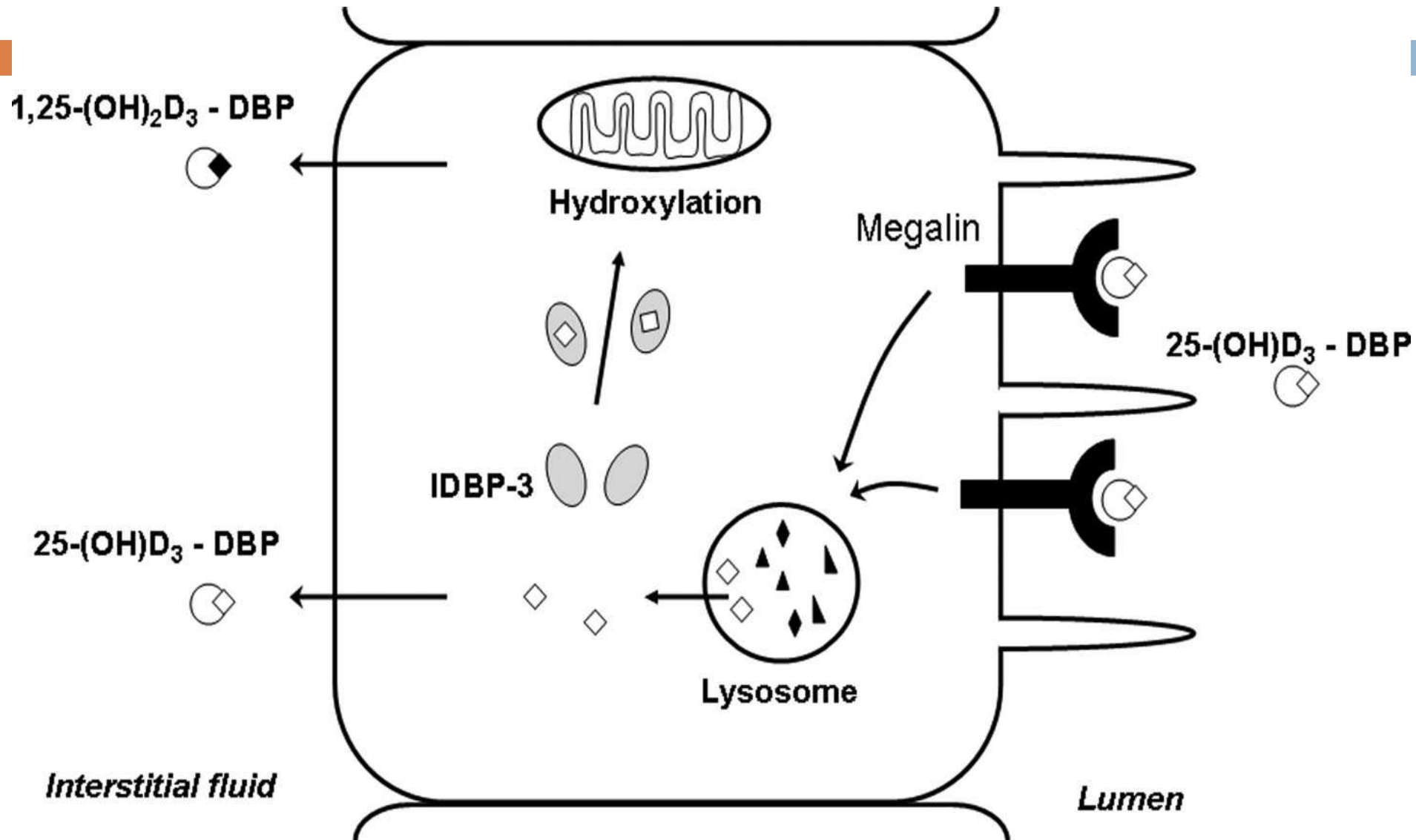
# 2 Actions



**Classical actions**



## Roles of megalin and intracellular vitamin D binding protein 3 (IDBP-3) in the delivery and 1-hydroxylation of 25-hydroxyvitaminD.



# Non-classical actions



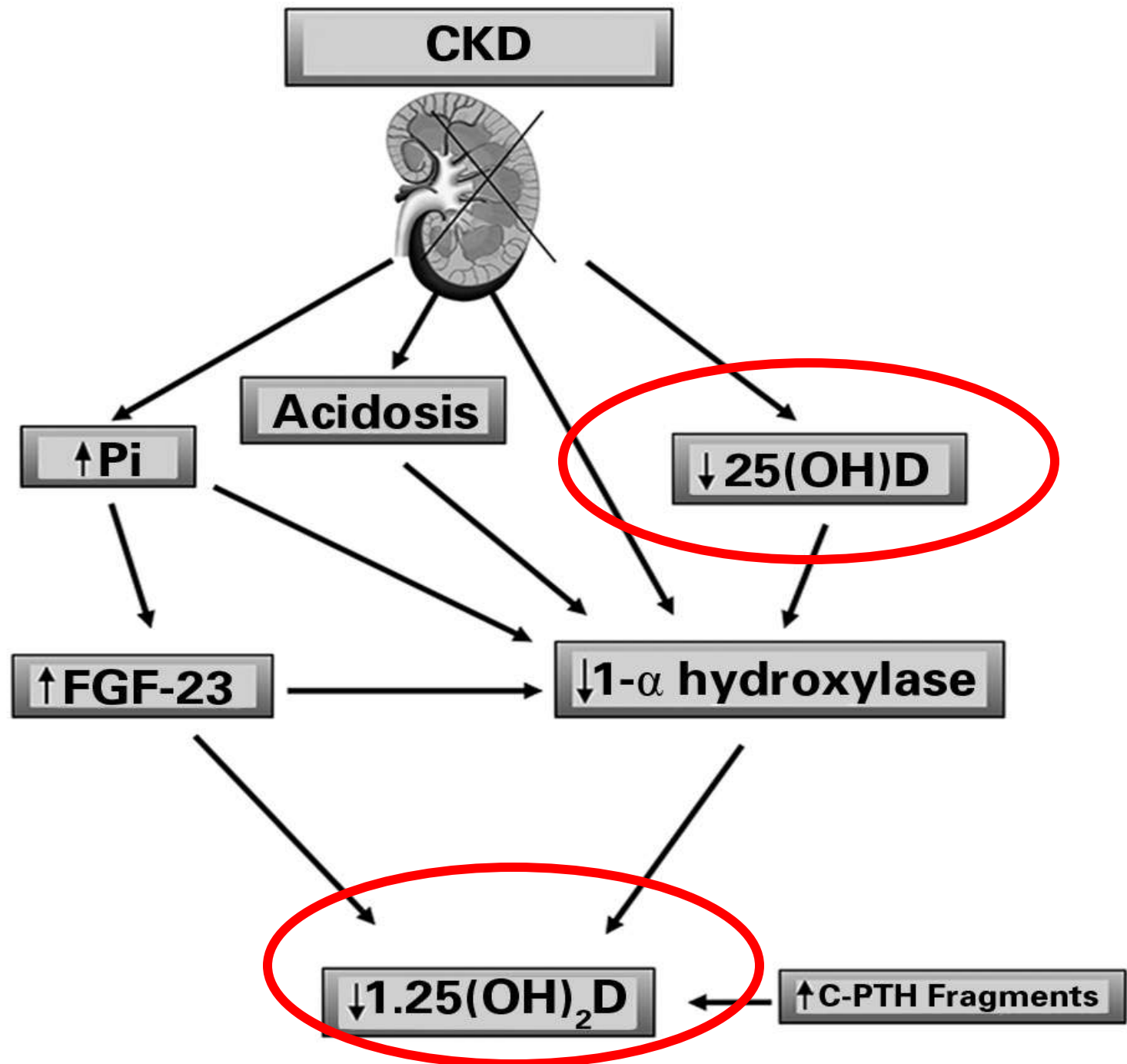
- Calcium-phosphorus-PTH axis domain.
- 1- $\alpha$ -hydroxylase in tissues and organs other than kidneys.

- Modulation of the immune system,
- Regulation of cellular differentiation,
- Programmed cell death,
- Inhibition of cell growth,
- Control of the central nervous system,
- Regulation of cardiomyocyte hypertrophy,
- Regulation of insulin secretion and
- Regulation of blood pressure via (RAAS).





# Vitamin D metabolism in CKD



Calcidiol  
deficiency

Calcitriol  
deficiency

Calcitriol  
resistance

Calcidiol  
deficiency

Calcitriol  
deficiency

Calcitriol  
resistance

# Calcidiol deficiency

- Reduced **sun** exposure,
- reduced **skin** synthesis,
- reduced ingestion of **foods** rich in vit. D,
- loss of DBP with **proteinuria**

# Calcitriol deficiency

# Calcitriol resistance

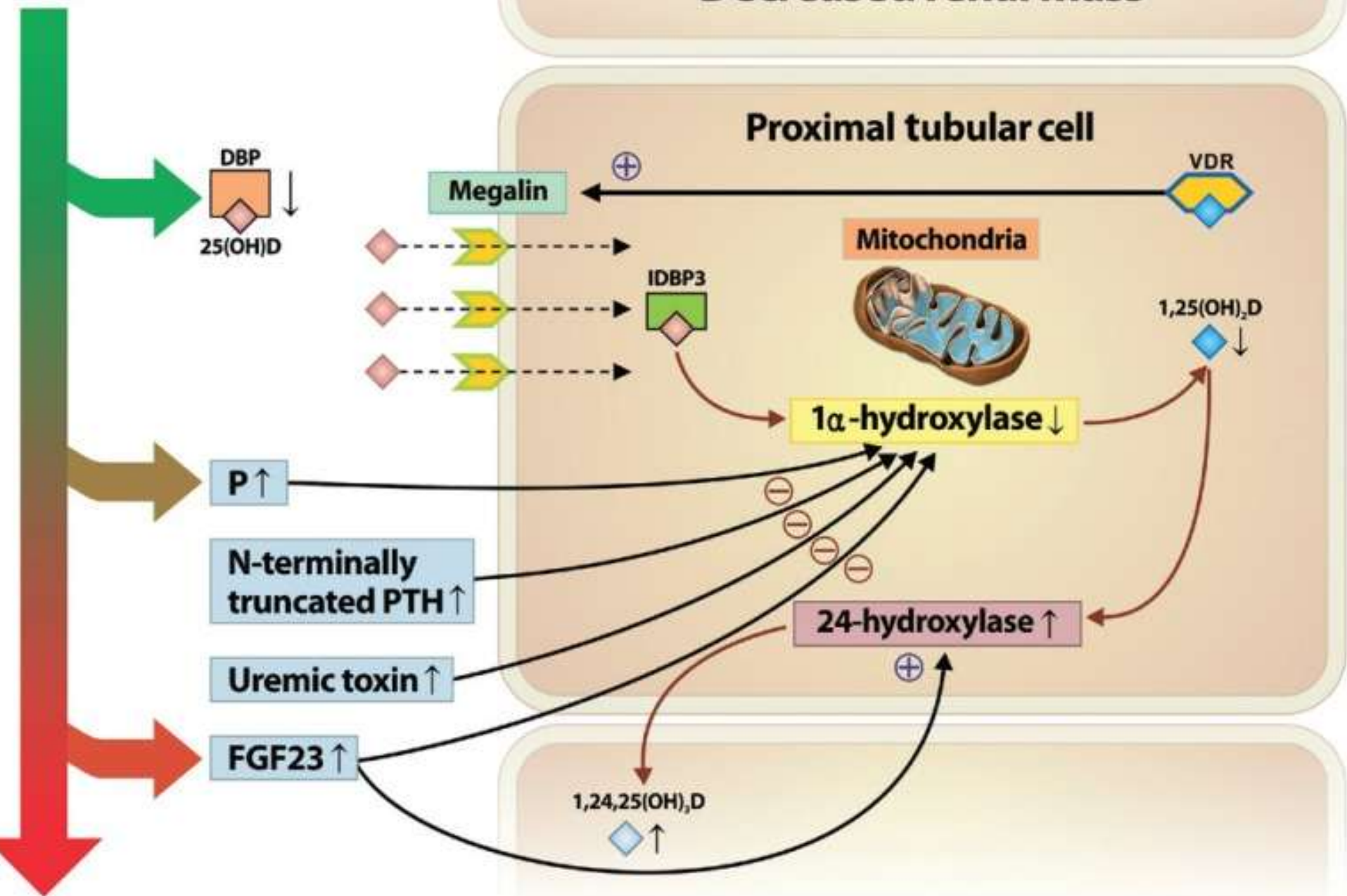
Calcidiol  
deficiency

Calcitriol  
deficiency

Calcitriol  
resistance

GFR ↓

Decreased renal mass



Calcidiol  
deficiency

Calcitriol  
deficiency

- Reduced **calcidiol** availability,
- Reduced **renal 1- $\alpha$ hydroxylase** availability,
- Down regulation of renal 1- $\alpha$  hydroxylase from **hyperphosphatemia and FGF-23**,
- Reduced endocytotic uptake by **megalyn**,
- Increased degradation of calcitriol by **PTH** and **FGF-23**

Calcitriol  
resistance



Calcidiol  
deficiency

Calcitriol  
deficiency

Calcitriol  
resistance

- **Loss** of VDR in parathyroid glands,
- Impaired **binding** of active vitamin D to VDR and
- Impaired binding of vitamin D–VDR complex to the VDR element

# FGF-23 and vitamin D

## FGF-23

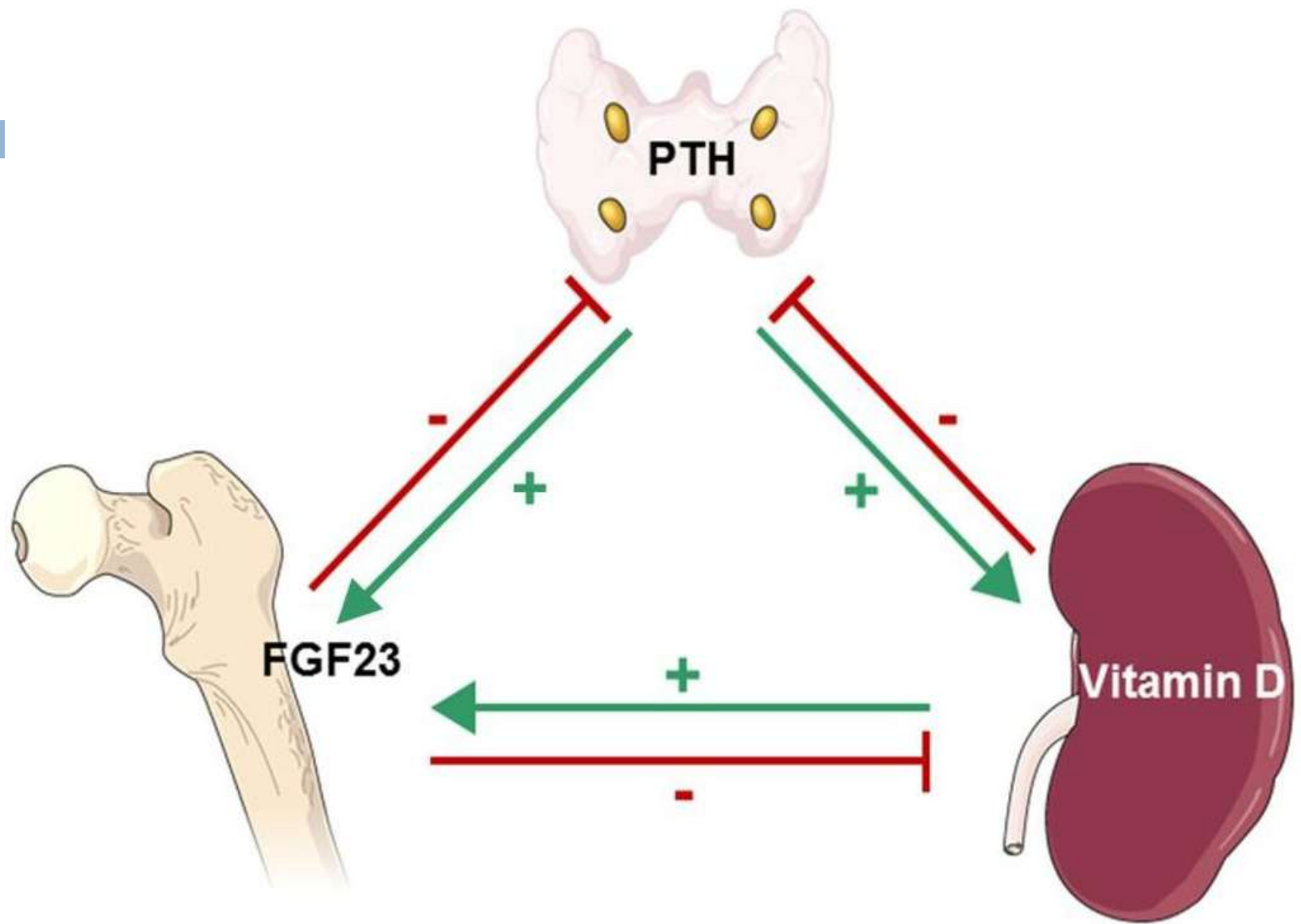
- Induces phosphaturia
- Directly suppress the activity and expression of 1- $\alpha$ -hydroxylase.
- Induces the expression of 24-hydroxylase the enzyme responsible for the degradation of 1.25(OH) $_2$ D thus decreasing vitamin D bioavailability

# FGF-23

**Phosphaturic hormone produced by osteocytes in response to elevated phosphate.**

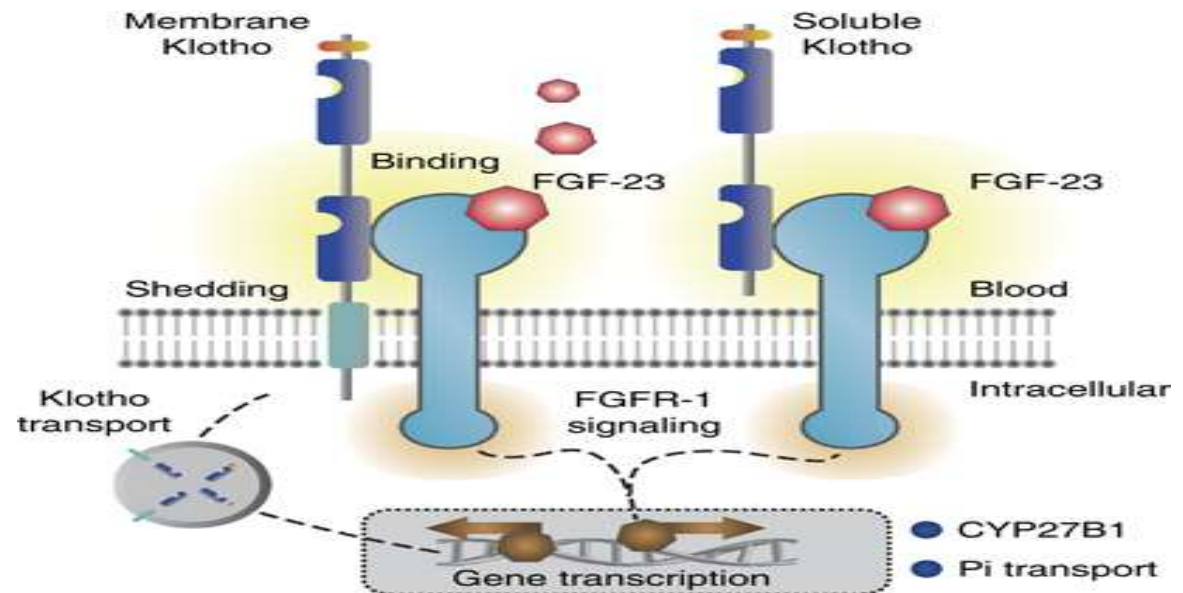


**suppressing the activity of 1- $\alpha$  hydroxylase**

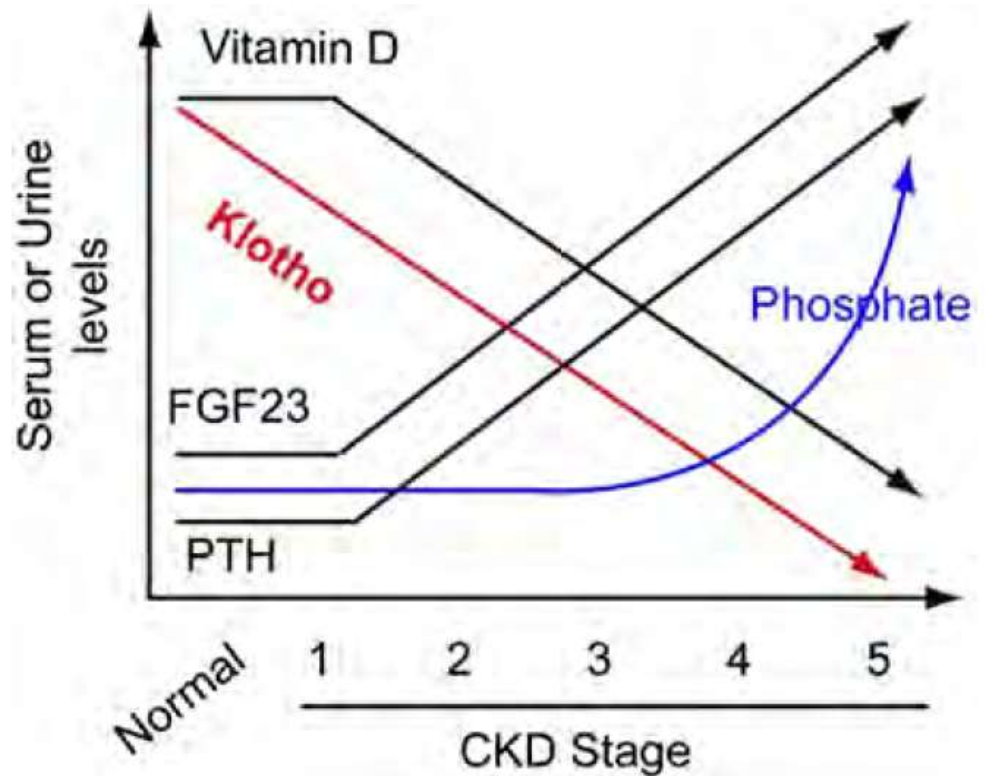


# The FGF23-Klotho axis

- Klotho is a membrane-bound protein that control sodium-phosphate cotransporters and renal phosphate transport in proximal tubular epithelial cells.
- The availability of an adequate amount of Klotho is essential for FGF23 to exert its phosphaturic effects.



The FGF23-Klotho axis: endocrine regulation of phosphate. Nat Rev Endocrinol. 2009 :611-619.



**Figure 2.** Changes in phosphate-regulating factors by chronic kidney disease (CKD) stages. Abbreviations: FGF23, fibroblast growth factor 23; PTH, parathyroid hormone. Reproduced from John et al<sup>100</sup> with permission of the National Kidney Foundation.

## Original Paper

# The Association between Fibroblast Growth Factor-23 and Vascular Calcification Is Mitigated by Inflammation Markers

Mohamed M. NasrAllah<sup>a</sup> Amal R. El-Shehaby<sup>b</sup> Noha A. Osman<sup>a</sup>  
Tarek Fayad<sup>a</sup> Amr Nassef<sup>c</sup> Mona M. Salem<sup>d</sup> Usama A.A. Sharaf El Din<sup>a</sup>

Departments of <sup>a</sup>Nephrology, <sup>b</sup>Medical Biochemistry, <sup>c</sup>Radiology, and <sup>d</sup>Endocrinology,  
Kasr Al-Ainy School of Medicine, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt

□ 65 S 5 CKD on HD

**Conclusion:** FGF-23 is strongly correlated to various markers of inflammation and oxidative stress in hemodialysis patients. The association between FGF-23 and vascular calcification was mitigated <sup>من</sup> ~~when~~ <sup>القسط</sup> ~~treated~~ for inflammation markers. *Kidney International*, vol. 82, no. 7, pp 737–747, 2012

## **The impact of vitamin D status on the relative increase in fibroblast growth factor 23 and parathyroid hormone in chronic kidney disease.**

Taal MW, Thurston V, McIntyre NJ, Fluck RJ, McIntyre CW

Reported that intact FGF23 increased prior to PTH in patients with vitamin D sufficiency ( $\geq 20$  ng/mL of serum total 25[OH]D),

1664 patients with CKD stage 3


Kidney Int. 2014 Aug;86(2):407-13.



# Association between the Vitamin D Status and Clinical Outcomes in CKD

Vitamin D deficiency is highly prevalent among patients with CKD and strongly associated with various clinical outcomes.

- Doubling of serum creatinine or ESRD,
- Anemia and muscle weakness
- Vascular calcification,
- Vascular endothelial function,
- Cardiovascular events, and
- Cardiovascular mortality



Over the last 25 years, there have been many studies showing the association between decreased calcidiol concentration in the blood and

Mortality ,

Cardiovascular disease,

Bone fractures,

Diabetes mellitus,

Some malignant diseases and autoimmune disease.

# Vitamin D in CKD and Mortality



## Vitamin D status and mortality in chronic kidney disease

Stefan Pilz<sup>1,2</sup>, Andreas Tomaschitz<sup>1</sup>, Claudia Friedl<sup>3</sup>, Karin Amrein<sup>1</sup>, Christiane Drechsler<sup>4</sup>, Eberhard Ritz<sup>5</sup>, Bernhard O. Boehm<sup>6</sup>, Tanja B. Grammer<sup>7,8,9</sup> and Winfried März<sup>7,8,9</sup>

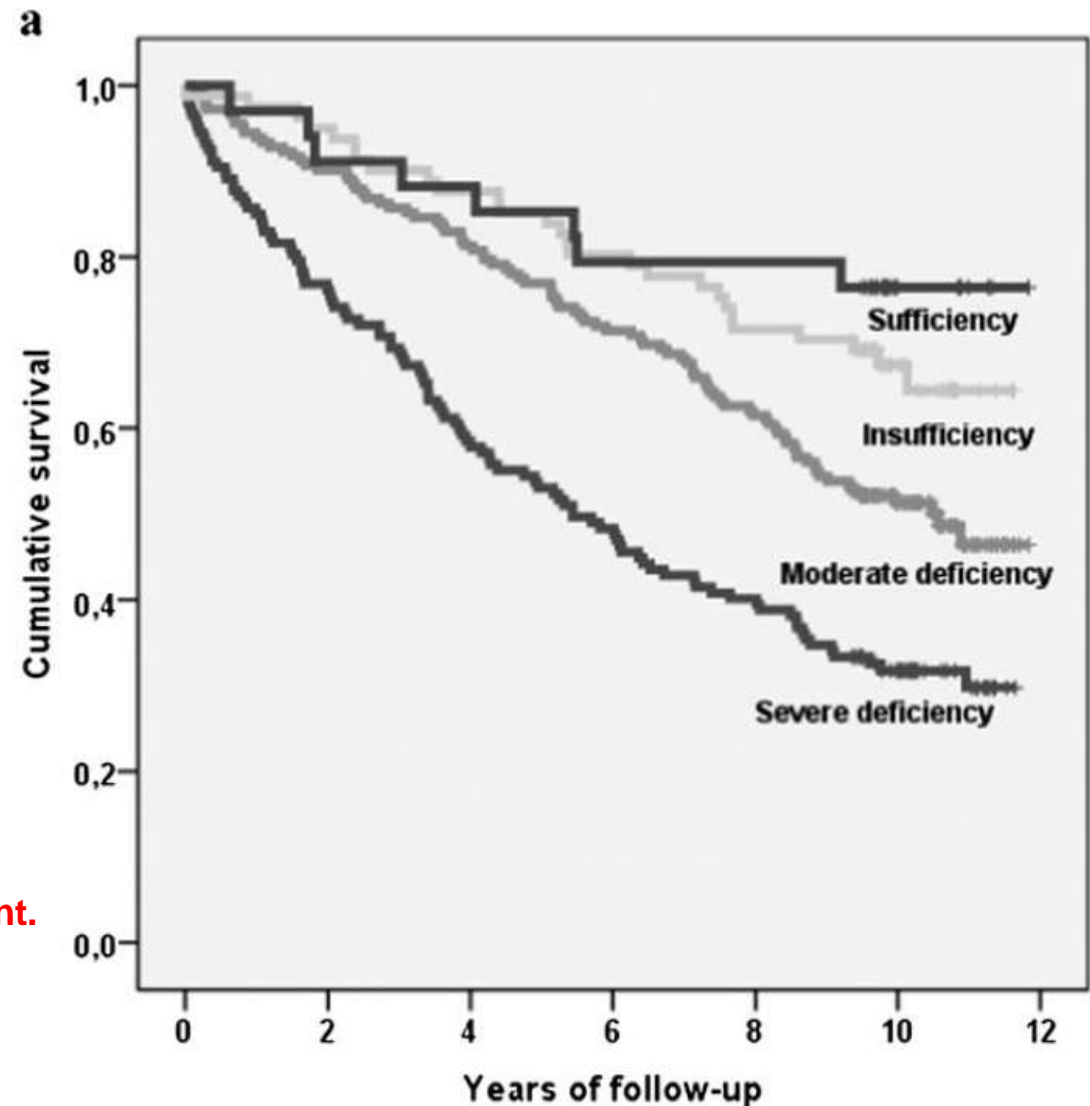
**Methods.** 444 patients with eGFR <60 mL/ min/1.73m<sub>2</sub>  
prospective cohort study

**Results.** During a median follow-up time of 9.4 years, 227 patients died including 159 deaths from cardiovascular causes.

**Conclusions.** Low 25(OH)D levels are associated with increased all-cause and cardiovascular mortality in CKD patients.

These findings support suggestions to correct vitamin D deficiency, but whether vitamin D supplementation improves survival remains to be proven in randomized controlled trials.

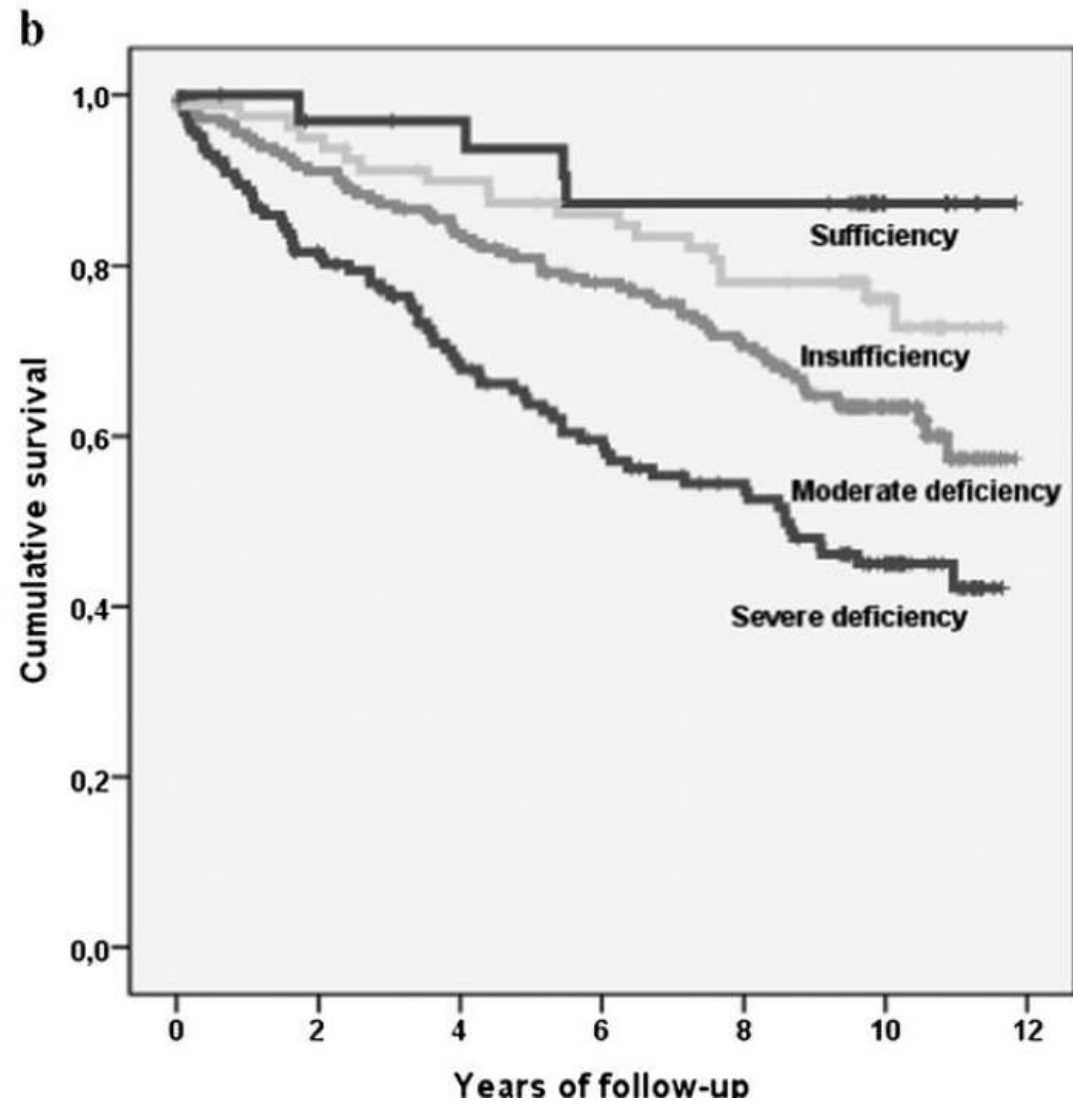
**(a) Kaplan–Meier curves for all-cause mortality according to vitamin D status.**



**NDT**  
Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation

Stefan Pilz et al. Nephrol. Dial. Transplant.  
2011;26:3603-3609

**(b) Kaplan–Meier curves for cardiovascular mortality according to vitamin D status.**



**NDT**  
Nephrology Dialysis Transplantation

Stefan Pilz et al. Nephrol. Dial. Transplant  
2011;26:3603-3609

A meta-analysis of many observational studies

## **Vitamin D Status and Mortality Risk in CKD: A Meta-analysis of Prospective Studies**

Stefan Pilz, MD, Simona Iodice, MD, Armin Zittermann, PhD, William B. Grant, PhD,  
and Sara Gandini, PhD

### **Conclusions:**

- inverse association between all-cause mortality and serum total 25(OH)D concentrations
- Higher 25(OH)D levels are associated with significantly improved survival in patients with CKD.

*American Journal of Kidney Diseases*, vol. 58, no. 3, pp. 374–382, 2011.

# Insufficiency and deficiency

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Therefore, it was obvious that vitamin D status, as a deficiency or insufficiency, should be defined.



- The definition of insufficiency and deficiency varies among researchers and organizations.
- The Institute of Medicine proposed 20 ng/mL or more of serum total 25(OH)D as an indicator of sufficiency.
- While many other views support the conventional concentration of 30 ng/mL as stated in the 2003 Kidney Disease Outcomes Quality Initiative (KDOQI) guidelines

# Lab Reference Range

- INTERPRETIVE guidelines for Vitamin D (25-hydroxy):

> 80 ng/mL: Potential toxicity

30-80 ng/mL: Optimum level

20-29 ng/mL: Insufficiency

< 20 ng/mL: Deficiency

# THERAPEUTIC USE OF VITAMIN D IN CKD

- The use of vitamin D compounds in CKD has been known for more than 60 years.

- Discovery of hyperparathyroidism in 1970,
- In 1976, Eastwood et al showed low levels of 25(OH)D in patients with both CKD and osteomalacia and that supplementing these patients with 25(OH)D lowers PTH levels.
- In 1975, Chertow et al discovered that administration of the active form of vitamin D, 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D, reduces PTH secretion in rats

Eastwood JB, Stamp TC, Harris E, de Wardener HE. Vitamin-D deficiency in the osteomalacia of chronic renal failure. *Lancet*. 1976;2(7997):1209-1211

Chertow BS, Baylink DJ, Wergedal JE, Su MH, Norman AW. Decrease in serum immunoreactive parathyroid hormone in rats and in parathyroid hormone secretion in vitro by 1,25-dihydroxycholecalciferol. *J Clin Invest*. 1975;56(3):668-678.

# Target cells for 1,25-dihydroxyvitamin D3 in intestinal tract, stomach, kidney, skin, pituitary, and parathyroid

WE Stumpf, M Sar, FA Reid, Y Tanaka, HF DeLuca

*Science* 07 Dec **1979**: Vol. 206, Issue 4423, pp. 1188-1190  
DOI: 10.1126/science.505004

Later, however, it was discovered that the **VDR** is found in the parathyroid glands

# Regulation by Vitamin D Metabolites of Parathyroid Hormone Gene Transcription In Vivo in the Rat

**Justin Silver,\* Tally Naveh-Many,\* Hubert Mayer,‡ Hans Jurgen Schmelzer,‡ and Mordecai M. Popovtzer\***

*\*Nephrology Services, Hadassah University Hospital, Jerusalem, Israel il-91120; and ‡Department of Genetics, Gesellschaft für Biotechnologische Forschung, D-3300 Braunschweig, Federal Republic of Germany*

- A major function of vitamin D is to suppress parathyroid cell proliferation and the expression of the preproparathyroid gene

These results show that 1,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D<sub>3</sub> regulates PTH gene transcription.

J. Clin. Invest. 78, 1296–1301 (1986).

## REVIEW

[www.nature.com/clinicalpractice/endmet](http://www.nature.com/clinicalpractice/endmet)

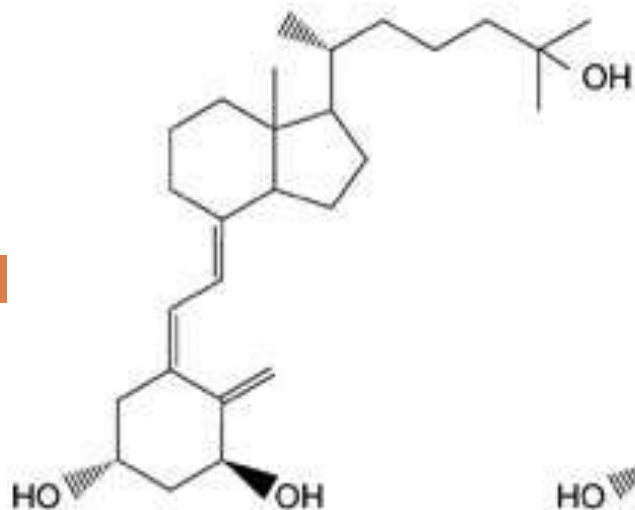
# Drug Insight: vitamin D analogs in the treatment of secondary hyperparathyroidism in patients with chronic kidney disease

Alex J Brown\* and Eduardo Slatopolsky

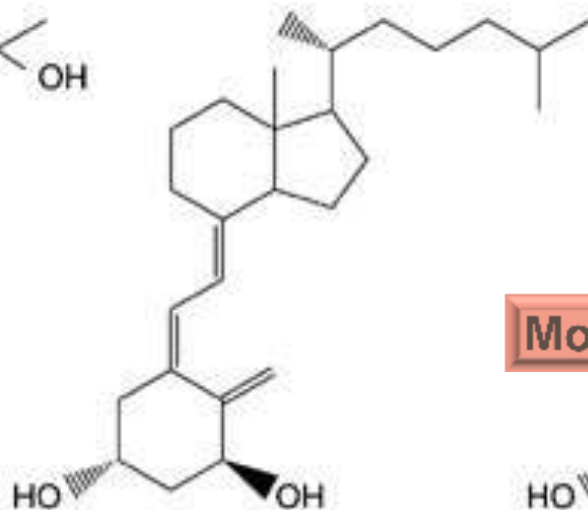
[Nat Clin Pract Endocrinol Metab.](#) 2007 Feb;3(2):134-44.

- Vitamin D analogs that inhibit PTH gene transcription and parathyroid hyperplasia (and have **reduced calcemic activity**)
- **Safer** treatment for secondary hyperparathyroidism than calcitriol;
- **Greater** selectivity.

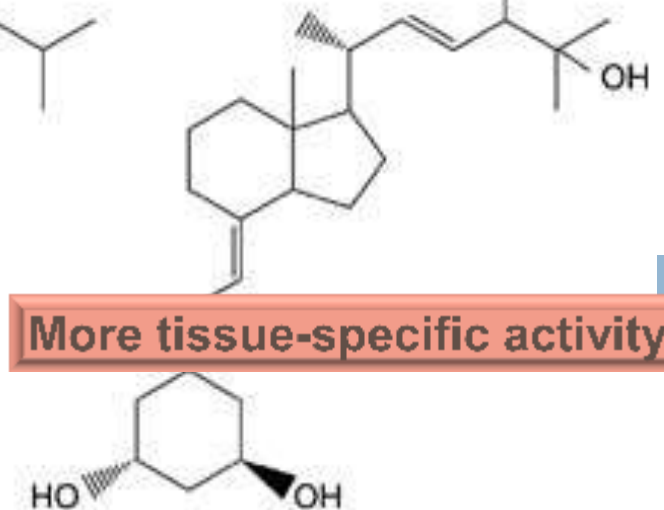




1 $\alpha$ ,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D<sub>3</sub>  
Calcitriol

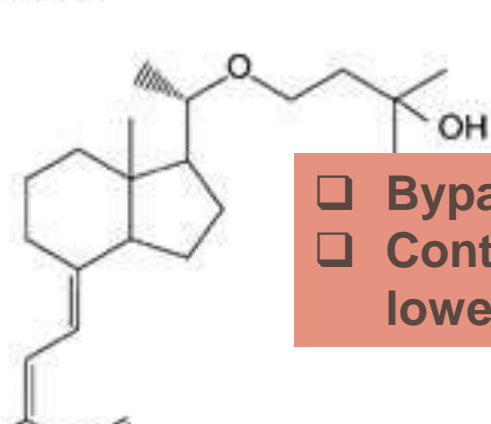


1 $\alpha$ (OH)D<sub>3</sub>  
Alfacalcidol

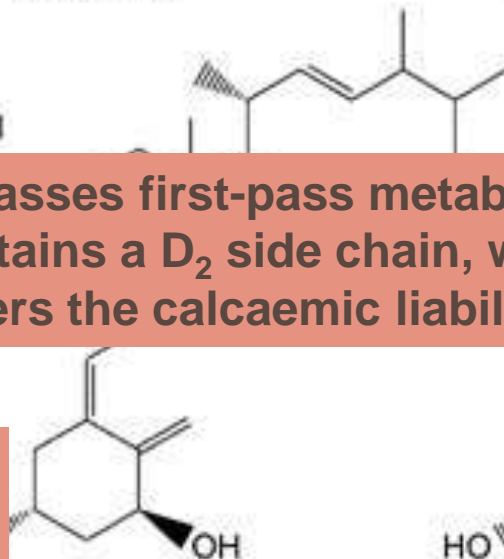


More tissue-specific activity

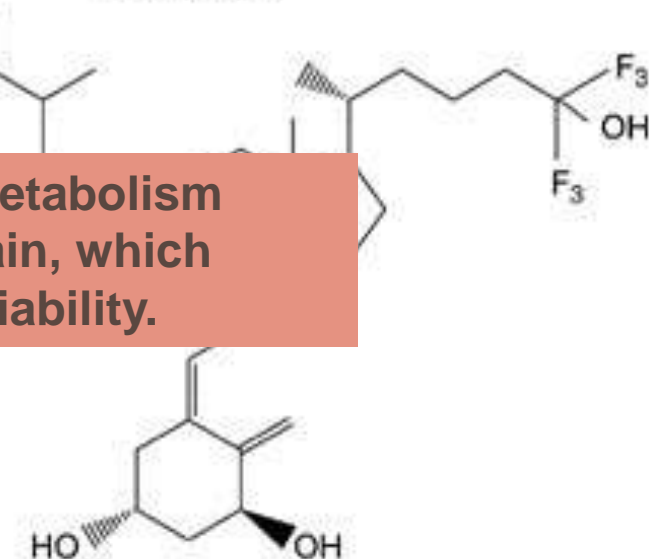
1 $\alpha$ ,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>-19-nor-D<sub>2</sub>  
Paricalcitol



22-oxacalcitriol  
Maxacalcitol



1 $\alpha$ (OH)D<sub>2</sub>  
Doxercalciferol



1 $\alpha$ ,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>-26,27-F<sub>6</sub>-D<sub>3</sub>  
Falecalcitriol

- ❑ Bypasses first-pass metabolism
- ❑ Contains a D<sub>2</sub> side chain, which lowers the calcaemic liability.

- ❑ The lower toxicity (short half-life)



# **Vitamin D Therapy in CKD**

## **When, to Whom and in Which Form**

- The prevalence of vitamin D supplementation has rapidly increased in the United States during the past decade (from 10% in 2003 to 44% in 2011)

- (Active) or (Nutritional) vitamin D in patients with CKD and ESRD.

**Active**

**Calcitriol**

**Vitamin  
D analogs**

**Nutritio-  
nal**

**Ergocalciferol**

**Cholecalciferol**

# Nutritional Vitamin D Supplementation and CKD

## Nutritional vitamin D (cholecalciferol and ergocalciferol)

- **Unlikely to induce hypercalcemia** unless given continuously at a high dose because its  $1\alpha$ -hydroxylase-mediated activation process is regulated by many factors such as PTH, FGF23, and 24-hydroxylase .

This is **in contrast** to the effects of calcitriol and active vitamin D analogues that directly increase calcium absorption and reabsorption in the intestine and kidney tubular cells, respectively.

- Concentration of <100mg/mL is generally considered safe ,
- A tolerable upper oral intake level of 4,000 IU/day .
- It forms a complex with DBP after being converted into 25(OH)D, which yields a long half-life (480 hours).
- Prescription of nutritional vitamin D at doses equivalent to weeks or months.
- Safety profile, and the low cost of nutritional vitamin D,
- No effects of nutritional vitamin D supplementation on the concentrations of FGF23

*The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition, vol.  
96, no. 3, pp. 672–679, 2012.*

**D3 OR D2**




## Bioavailability of Vitamin D<sub>2</sub> and D<sub>3</sub> in Healthy Volunteers, a Randomized Placebo-Controlled Trial

Ulrike Lehmann, Frank Hirche, Gabriele I. Stangl, Katja Hinz, Sabine Westphal, and Jutta Dierkes

- which form is **more effective** in supplementation and fortification
- 1000–1600 IU of vitamin D<sub>2</sub> or vitaminD<sub>3</sub> were included
- The aim was to investigate the effects of this high dose on the serum levels of the hydroxylated forms 25(OH)D<sub>2</sub> and 25(OH)D<sub>3</sub> and on their sum total 25(OH)D

**J Clin Endocrinol Metab, November 2013, 98(11):4339–4345**





**Conclusions:** Vitamin D3 increases the total 25(OH)D concentration more than vitamin D2.

Functionally, vitamin D3 is at least **300%** more effective than D2.

Vitamin D3 supplementation has also been shown to maintain serum vitamin D levels in the **long** run

# TREATMENT GUIDELINES





# **K/DOQI Clinical Practice Guidelines for Bone Metabolism and Disease in Chronic Kidney Disease**

## 1.4 The target range of plasma levels of intact PTH in the various stages of CKD

**Table 15. Target Range of Intact Plasma PTH by Stage of CKD**

CKD Stage	GFR Range (mL/min/1.73 m <sup>2</sup> )	Target “intact” PTH (pg/mL [pmol/L])
3	30-59	35-70 [3.85-7.7 pmol/L] (OPINION)
4	15-29	70-110 [7.7-12.1 pmol/L] (OPINION)
5	<15 or dialysis	150-300 [16.5-33.0 pmol/L] (EVIDENCE)

**Table 27. Serum Levels of PTH, Calcium and Phosphate Required for Initiation of Oral Vitamin D Sterol Therapy, and Recommended Initial Doses in Patients with Stages 3 and 4 CKD**

Plasma PTH pg/mL or [pmol/L]	Serum Ca mg/dL [mmol/L]	Serum P mg/dL [mmol/L]	Dose Oral Calcitriol	Dose Oral Alfacalcidol	Dose Oral Doxercalciferol
>70 [7.7] (CKD Stage 3) Or >110 [12.1] (CKD Stage 4)	<9.5 [2.37]	<4.6 [1.49]	0.25 $\mu$ g/day	0.25 $\mu$ g/day	2.5 $\mu$ g 3x/week

## 8B.1 Patients treated with hemodialysis or peritoneal dialysis

**Table 28. Recommended Initial Dosing for Vitamin D Sterols  
by Serum Levels of Intact PTH, Calcium, Phosphorus, and Ca-P Product**

Plasma PTH pg/mL or [pmol/L]	Serum Ca mg/dL [mmol/L]	Serum P mg/dL [mmol/L]	Ca-P Product	Dose per HD Calcitriol†*	Dose per HD Paricalcitol*	Dose per HD Doxercalciferol†*
300-600 [33-66]	<9.5 [2.37]	<5.5 [1.78]	<55	IV: 0.5-1.5 $\mu$ g Oral: 0.5-1.5 $\mu$ g	2.5-5.0 $\mu$ g	Oral: 5 $\mu$ g IV: 2 $\mu$ g
600-1000 [66-110]	<9.5 [2.37]	<5.5 [1.78]	<55	IV: 1.0-3.0 $\mu$ g Oral: 1-4 $\mu$ g	6.0-10 $\mu$ g	Oral: 5-10 $\mu$ g IV: 2-4 $\mu$ g
>1000 [110]	<10.0 [2.50]	<5.5 [1.78]	<55	IV: 3.0-5.0 $\mu$ g Oral: 3-7 $\mu$ g	10-15 $\mu$ g	Oral: 10-20 $\mu$ g IV: 4-8 $\mu$ g

\*Intravenous; † Oral

Measure serum PTH



# KDIGO 2009



- In patients with CKD stages 3-5D, the suggestions<sup>a</sup> are to:
  - ▣ Measure 25(OH)D (calcidiol) levels
  - ▣ Repeat testing on the basis of:
    - Baseline values
    - Therapeutic interventions
  - ▣ Correct vitamin D deficiency and insufficiency in accordance to treatment strategies recommended for the **general population**

a. 3.1.3 (2C)



# KDIGO 2012

## Vitamin D supplementation and bisphosphonates in people with CKD

3.3.5: We suggest **not** to routinely prescribe vitamin D supplements or vitamin D analogs, in the **absence** of suspected or documented deficiency, to suppress elevated PTH concentrations in people with CKD not on dialysis. (2B)

# 2013 KDIGO Controversies Conference

for updating clinical practice guidelines.

**Moderate PTH elevations may serve as a beneficial adaptive response (e.g., phosphaturia, bone turnover, calcium balance and load)**

**Table 4 | Recommendations related to vitamin D and PTH requiring literature reassessment**

4.2.1 In patients with CKD stages 3–5 not on dialysis, the optimal PTH level is not known. However, we suggest that patients with levels of intact PTH above the upper normal limit of the assay are first evaluated for hyperphosphatemia, hypocalcemia, and vitamin D deficiency (2C). It is reasonable to correct these abnormalities with any or all of the following: reducing dietary phosphate intake and administering phosphate binders, calcium supplements, and/or native vitamin D (not graded).

4.2.2 In patients with CKD stages 3–5 not on dialysis, in whom serum PTH is progressively rising and remains persistently above the upper limit of normal for the assay despite correction of modifiable factors, we suggest treatment with calcitriol or vitamin D analogs (2C).

Abbreviations: CKD, chronic kidney disease; PTH, parathyroid hormone.

**High values may negatively impact bone quality, result in the progression of parathyroid hyperplasia and decrease the efficacy of treatment strategies.**

# TAKE HOME MESSAGE

- Although  $1,25(\text{OH})_2\text{D}$  is the biologically active form, but  $25(\text{OH})\text{D}$  is the major biomarker of total vitamin D stores.
- $1-\alpha$ -hydroxylase is expressed in many tissues and organs other than kidneys.
- Vitamin D deficiency is highly prevalent among patients with CKD and strongly associated with various clinical outcomes.
- Vitamin D3 is at least more effective than D2.

**Table 15. Target Range of Intact Plasma PTH by Stage of CKD**

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Plasma PTH pg/mL or [pmol/L]	Serum Ca mg/dL [mmol/L]	Serum P mg/dL [mmol/L]	Ca-P Product	Dose per HD Calcitriol†*	Dose per HD Paricalcitol*	Dose per HD Doxercalciferol†*
<b>300-600</b> [33-66]	<9.5 [2.37]	<5.5 [1.78]	<55	IV: 0.5-1.5 $\mu$ g Oral: 0.5-1.5 $\mu$ g	2.5-5.0 $\mu$ g	Oral: 5 $\mu$ g IV: 2 $\mu$ g
<b>600-1000</b> [66-110]	<9.5 [2.37]	<5.5 [1.78]	<55	IV: 1.0-3.0 $\mu$ g Oral: 1-4 $\mu$ g	6.0-10 $\mu$ g	Oral: 5-10 $\mu$ g IV: 2-4 $\mu$ g
<b>&gt;1000</b> [110]	<10.0 [2.50]	<5.5 [1.78]	<55	IV: 3.0-5.0 $\mu$ g Oral: 3-7 $\mu$ g	10-15 $\mu$ g	Oral: 10-20 $\mu$ g IV: 4-8 $\mu$ g

\*Intravenous; † Oral

Monitor PTH Levels  
Evaluate Vit. D Status and  
treat as necessary

Treat acidosis

*Consider:*

Dietary Pi restriction

Calcium supplements/PiBinders

### CKD 3

**Goal:**

Intact PTH 35-75 pg/ml

Calcium - normal  
(8.4 - 10.2 mg/dl)

Phosphorus- normal  
(2.7 - 4.6 mg/dl)

*Consider:*

Active Vitamin D sterols

calcitriol

doxercalciferol

paricalcitol

### CKD 4

**Goal:**

Intact PTH 70-110 pg/ml

Calcium - normal  
(8.4 - 10.2 mg/dl)

Phosphorus- normal  
(2.7 - 4.6 mg/dl)

*Consider:*

Calcimimetic

Dialysate calcium

Dialysis Regimen

Limit calcium intake

Parathyroidectomy

### CKD 5

**Goal:**

Intact PTH 150-300 pg/ml

Calcium - normal

(prefer 8.4 - 9.5 mg/dl)

Phosphorus- 3.5- 5.5 mg/dl)

**Monitor  
As nessessary**



**Please**

**Don't overuse**

**Don't abuse**

**Don't misuse**



**Thank you**

